



WILMETTE PARK DISTRICT Regular Board Meeting Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 10, 2023
7:30 p.m. – Village Hall Council Chambers

PRESENT

Commissioners: President Michael Murdock, Vice President Kara Kosloskus, Patrick Duffy, Cecilia Clarke, Allison Frazier and Julia Goebel

Staff: Executive Director/Secretary Steve Wilson

Absent: Commissioner Lindsay Anderson

Visitors: Ely Tandeter, Alan Golden, Mary Shea, Patrick Lahey, Jen Marzouk, Tanja Chevalier

1.0 REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

A. Roll Call Taken

2.0 CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Frazier moved and Commissioner Kosloskus seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda of the April 10, 2023, Regular Board Meeting, a copy of which is to be attached to and become a permanent part of the minutes of this meeting.

By a roll call vote, voting Yes, Commissioners: Duffy, Frazier, Clarke, Goebel, Kosloskus and Murdock. Voting No, none. Absent: Commissioner Anderson;
Motion Carried.

3.0 COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT/RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Jen Marzouk – Ms. Marzouk expresses her appreciation for the neighborly way the pickleball courts were agreed upon. She expresses that the plan outlined in the board packet will increase the recreational opportunities in our village and also takes into consideration the neighbors in close proximity to the proposed courts. She thanks the board for this.

Ely Tandeter – Mr. Tandeter passes out a drawing of proposed fencing at the dog beach to all the commissioners. He states he would like to call the board's attention to an issue with the dog beach along with a solution. The dog beach is supposed to be a place where dogs can run free and not have the fear of them running away.

He explains that the dog beach has a fence that ends at the water line, allowing dogs to run around it and escape. When the water line is lower than the fence or when the water is frozen, it provides a bridge for dogs to get around the barrier. Even when the water meets the fence perfectly, due to the low slope of the beach, most dogs have no problem getting around it. This is very stressful for owners because they cannot prevent it unless they stand at the fence the entire time they are visiting the dog beach. Mr. Tandeter also expresses concern for people on the other side of the fence, with whom the dogs may come into contact with if they escape the dog beach. To solve the issue, he proposes the following: run the fence all the way to the stone jetty, which will provide a proper barrier that the dogs do not try to scale. He also expresses understanding that there are kayaking activities on that side of the beach, and explains the beach can still be accessed by kayakers if a gate is put in.

Tanja Chevalier – Ms. Chevalier approaches the lectern to ask if there will be opportunity for public comment after the Wallace Bowl presentation. President Murdock explains that since she would like this opportunity, he will allow public comment after the presentation by Tinucci Architects.

Alan Golden – Mr. Golden says he would like to have access to the raw Parks and Play data from the community survey so he can have a look at it, once it becomes available. His second question has to do with the pickleball courts in Community Playfields. He says he is confused as to why the project will cost \$1M in order to repaint three tennis courts. Mr. Golden is looking for more detail behind the price tag. He thanks the board for not pouring any more concrete or taking down any trees for this plan. He will receive an email from Director Wilson.

5.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Wilson walks through his Executive Director's Report.

Project Parks and Play – Director Wilson explains that 1,201 responses were received from the community survey. The consultants will be at a board meeting next month to present the results to the community and the board.

Wallace Bowl Restoration – Andy Tinucci presented his team's initial findings to the Ouilmette Foundation and he is here to give the same presentation to the Wilmette Board of Park Commissioners. This presentation includes more detail regarding the restoration. This presentation is included in the board packet and can be viewed on the Village website. The Ouilmette Foundation is having a meeting this week to discuss their fundraising approach. When we have more information about that, staff will present it to the board.

There is one emergency expenditure resolution in the packet this month to retroactively approve the purchase of a new vehicle. Vehicles continue to be difficult to acquire through the conventional methods. The district has been waiting for a vehicle and one became available on a local lot for less than the price of the

one on order. The district took the opportunity and purchased the vehicle in order for the district to continue its business with the proper equipment.

There are three bids on the agenda this month and those memos can be found in the board packet.

The Go Green Wilmette plant sale is in three weeks down at Gillson.

6.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 PICKLEBALL AT COMMUNITY PLAYFIELDS – STAFF UPDATE

Director Wilson provides an update on pickleball. We heard from the pickle community as well as the neighbors of the Community Playfields. Those two groups got together and came to an agreement on which pickleball option would work best for the community. Director Wilson expresses appreciation for those two groups working together to decide on a good solution.

The staff will conform to the existing footprint of the courts, which does not require an approval of special use permit or zoning process. When we looked at moving from four courts to six courts, we learned that the spacing between the courts would not be at the minimum standards of USA Pickleball. The limitation brought by this would be that we could not hold an official USA Pickleball tournament at this location. As for sound, the estimate of costs includes the sound mitigation materials. Staff will update the board on any new information going forward.

President Murdock explains that the cost for the six pickleball courts, with the one tennis court adjacent to them, is an estimated \$431,000. And for the other set of courts, which will remain as tennis courts, the cost is \$353,000.

Commissioner Frazier asks Director Wilson for a comparison of fees that were expended at Thornwood for the resurfacing/reconstruction of those tennis courts. Director Wilson defers to Superintendent Solberg. Superintendent Solberg explains the resurfacing and reconstruction of the four tennis courts at Thornwood cost \$300,000. Thornwood did not require new fencing. The cost estimate for the courts at Community Playfields includes new acoustic fencing, wind screening, better drainage (addressing the water pooling on the north end of the park), etc. The cost for the actual courts is very comparable to the cost of the courts at Thornwood.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

7.1 WALLACE BOWL RESTORATION - WOODHOUSE TINUCCI PRESENTATION

Andy Tinucci of Woodhouse Tinucci Architects presents on the history of Wallace Bowl restorations as well as the current state and structural recommendations of the architectural team. The team intends to maintain the history of the space, while repairing the stone, pruning the trees, upgrading some of the materials in the seating, improving lighting and sound, and possibly making the space more accessible.

Public Comment on Wallace Bowl:

Tanja Chevalier – Ms. Chevalier thanks Andy Tinucci for his presentation. She says she is pleased that the architects are paying particular attention to the historical nature of the Bowl and trying to renovate it within those parameters.

President Murdock explains that he believes the architects are looking for some direction from the board regarding hand rails.

Commissioner Duffy explains that he would like to know how much the Ouilmette Foundation is willing to contribute, and then he will let that drive his decision as to whether we “go all out” with the renovation, or whether we “patch.” The rest of the commissioners were in agreement.

President Murdock says the Foundation is meeting this week to talk more about their funding goals.

7.2 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2023-R-3: EMERGENCY EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS

President Murdock explains that in order to ratify the emergency expenditure of funds, there would need to be approval of at least six board members, and there are only six board members present tonight. Had the purchase been \$619 less, it would not have been subject to these rules.

Commissioner Clarke asks what the vehicle is that was purchased. Director Wilson explains it was a small, hybrid, Ford Maverick pickup truck. The horticulturalist uses this vehicle to get around to all the parks.

Commissioner Goebel moves and Commissioner Frazier seconds a motion to approve the bid recommendation. By a roll call vote, voting *Yes*, Commissioners: Duffy, Frazier, Clarke, Goebel, Kosloskus, and Murdock. Voting *No*, none. *Absent*, Commissioner Anderson; **motion carried**.

7.3 CONSIDERATION OF BID RECOMMENDATION FOR THEATER BOX TRUCK REPLACEMENT

Commissioner Goebel inquires about the box truck and its purpose. Director Wilson responds that the truck is useful for many things, to move any number of

things around the district, as well as moving large set pieces from place to place. We affectionately refer to this truck as the “theater box truck.”

Commissioner Clarke moves and Commissioner Kosloskus seconds a motion to approve the bid recommendation. By a roll call vote, voting *Yes*, Commissioners: Duffy, Frazier, Clarke, Goebel, Kosloskus, and Murdock. Voting *No*, none. *Absent*, Commissioner Anderson; **motion carried**.

7.4 CONSIDERATION OF BID RECOMMENDATION FOR CENTENNIAL EXTERIOR DOOR REPLACEMENT

Commissioner Duffy asks which exterior doors, as there are many exterior doors at Centennial. Superintendent Solberg explains it is the main doors that lead to the tennis huts and ice rink. She also explains to the board that the doors are changing style, due to the nature of the use of the doors, with people moving in and out of them with huge bags for hockey, etc., the doors will be automatic sliding doors.

Commissioner Kosloskus moves and Commissioner Duffy seconds a motion to approve the bid recommendation. By a roll call vote, voting *Yes*, Commissioners: Duffy, Frazier, Clarke, Goebel, Kosloskus, and Murdock. Voting *No*, none. *Absent*, Commissioner Anderson; **motion carried**.

7.5 CONSIDERATION OF BID RECOMMENDATION FOR 2023 PAVING AND SEALING PROJECTS

Commissioner Duffy inquires as to why we went with Patriot over Champion, which looks to have bid \$1,500 less. Superintendent Solberg explains that there was a spec that Champion did not comply with, and when we went back to them to add in that spec, they came back with a different price. So, we then went with the next bidder. Champion effectively was not a qualified bid.

Commissioner Duffy moves and Commissioner Goebel seconds a motion to approve the bid recommendation. By a roll call vote, voting *Yes*, Commissioners: Duffy, Frazier, Clarke, Goebel, Kosloskus, and Murdock. Voting *No*, none. *Absent*, Commissioner Anderson; **motion carried**.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, President Murdock adjourned the Regular Board meeting.

By a unanimous voice vote; **Motion Carried**.

Minutes Approved on **May 8, 2023**.